Visa fraud racket in USA

1028. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an NRI in USA has been arrested for running a visa fraud racket;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any officers of passport/immigration office have been found involved in this racket;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps taken to plug loopholes in the system to prevent recurrence of such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. We have seen reports regarding arrest of one Narendra Mandalapa, an Indian citizen living in New Jersey on charges of fraud and misuse of visa violations. He is currently under the custody of United States Marshals Service. During investigations, it has been discovered that Mandalapa filed nearly 1000 fraudulent labour-based petitions on behalf of Indian and Pakistani nationals seeking entry into the US. Investigations reported to have uncovered that two shell companies in New Jersey owned by the Indian citizen were created solely to file labour-related petitions for foreign workers. The US Immigration and Customs authorities have seized his assets worth $ 5,794,592 from his four bank accounts in New Jersey and two brokerage accounts in New York.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Since no officer of passport/immigration office of the Government of India was involved in this racket, the question of taking steps to plug loopholes does not arise.

Indian Areas in Nepal Map

†1029., SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maoists residing in the Nepalese territory

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.